

Coinneamh Comann nam Pàrant (Nàiseanta)

Disathairne 20 Cèitean aig 11m
Premier Inn, George Square, Glasgow

An làthair / Present

Bob McGowan (BM)	Dùn Èideann agus Lodainn
Marsaili Dow (MD)	Ionmhasair
Magaidh Wentworth (MW)	Oifigear Phàrant
Diorbhail Wentworth (DW)	Oifigear Leasachaidh
Eleanor Wood (EW)	Oifigear Leasachaidh
Kathleen MacLeod (KM)	Na h-Eileanan Iar
Kerry Jardine (KJ)	Obar Dheathain
Paul Smith (PS)	Drochaid an Easbaig
Claire Wilding (CW)	An t-Òban
Sorcha O' Carroll (SO)	Inbhir Narainn
Eilidh MacKinnon (EM)	Glaschu

1. Leisgeulan / Apologies

Iona MacTaggart	Na h-Eileanan Iar
Fiona Stephen	Dùn Èideann
Becky Davidson	Inbhir Narainn
Mona Wilson	Bòrd na Gàidhlig
Joanne McHale	Bòrd na Gàidhlig
Fiona Heatlie	Glaschu

2. Geàrr-chunntas na Coinneimh 11 Màirt 2017 / Minute of Meeting 11th March 2017

The minute of the meeting on 11/03/17 was approved.

Proposed: Marsaili Dow

Seconded: Sorcha O' Carroll

3. Gnothaichean ag Èirigh nach eil air a' Chlàr-chùisean / Matters Arising not on agenda

3.1. A copy of follow up emails on point 3.1 'meeting with BnaG' were distributed to members and content noted.

Action – BM to follow up.

3.2. National Gaelic Language Plan.

The response from Cnamp Nàiseanta had been submitted to BnaG earlier in the week.

4. Achd an Fhoghlaim (iarrtasan airson FTG) / Education Act (requests for GMPE)

4.1. Bunessan

The parental request for GMPE in Bunessan has been approved and the local authority are now seeking to appoint a teacher for the 3 pupils going into Gaelic medium P1 this year.

4.2. East Renfrewshire

Following their initial assessment of the parental request for GMPE, East Renfrewshire council has taken the decision not to proceed with GME due to "insufficient demand". As there were 49 names on the request which met all the criteria as set out in the Education Act, CnP will support an appeal against the decision. The first step in the appeal process is through the local authority's own appeal system.

5. Iarrtas airson maoinachadh bho Bòrd na Gàidhlig / Funding Application to Bòrd na Gàidhlig

5.1. Engagement officer funding

we are still waiting for a response from BnaG to funding applications submitted at the end of January. This is hoped for by the end of May as current funding will run out at the end of June.

6. Maoinachadh Tràth Bhliadhnaichean / Early Years Funding

A summary on the background to EYF was distributed as reminder and update for those who haven't seen the information before. The funding for this scheme comes from the Scottish Government (Children, Young People and Families Early Intervention Fund) to CnP and is distributed via BnaG to the voluntary Gaelic early years sector. The CnP committee agreed to access third sector funding for early years as an interim measure, initially for 1 year, although it has now been 5 years. CnP now has some input on how the fund is allocated through the Parental Officer but have limited access to monitoring and evaluation information for the purposes of reporting on the fund although, the organisation has in recent years become more accountable for managing and reporting on the fund to SG. In response to concerns raised by the CnP accountant, the treasurer has requested written confirmation of the arrangement from SG about the agreement this year. MW meeting next week to discuss this with BnaG and representatives from Lloyds, who manage the fund, and SG.

7. Solarachadh Tidsearan ann an FTG / Teacher Supply in GME

7.1. Information on this year's new teachers

The paper provided by Joanne McHale (BnaG) on teacher situation was received with thanks. It was noted as a positive that teacher numbers are increasing.

7.2. Following a meeting between CnamP Glaschu and Glasgow City Council in which the council requested assistance finding Gaelic teaching staff, two information events were held at Glendale school for parents and other interested parties to encourage people into teaching and other education roles. Feedback to the council showed that individuals were struggling to find the information they need to get into these roles and that information on other careers in education, such as early years support and ASN teachers, was also unavailable.

This information event consisted of two drop-in sessions with representatives from BnaG, SMO, GCC and CnamP. The informal structure worked well.

Due to the perceived success of these sessions, BnaG is looking into running similar events in other areas. This event was specifically targeted at parents who have an interest in GME, whether Gaelic speaking or not, although it was also attended by non-parents. Information and advice on running these events is available from CnamP Glaschu.

7.3. *Current Vacancies*

Strathclyde University – Although the university has not yet recruited a new lecturer for the Gaelic teaching courses, it has indicated that the Gaelic course will run this year. The question was raised by the committee as to whether CnamP and/or BnaG should be encouraging Glasgow university to develop their Gaelic Medium teaching programs, as the university has a strong support network for Gaelic students already. The point was raised that students might be more willing to apply for postgraduate teaching courses if they were in an institution they were already familiar with.

Other teaching vacancies listed on information from JM and on BnaG/Obraichean Gàidhlig websites.

7.4. *Additional Support Needs*

There is anecdotal evidence of a lack of support for children with ASN in Gaelic Medium classes with the result that some parents are being asked to consider taking children out of GME when ASN are identified. The committee expressed concern over this lack of support for teachers, parents and children and raised the question: are current methods of assessing ASN in Gaelic Medium appropriate?

It was also noted that current provision by Stòrlann does not seem comprehensive enough and that in many cases there is a lack of resources due to small print runs.

8. **Prògram obrach làitheil agus cuisean ag èirigh / *Current programme of work and current issues***

8.1. *Reading books*

Glasgow Parent Council is looking for recommendations for reading materials for upper primary. This highlighted again the lack of suitable resources – many translations are not at the right level.

Cuilean Craicte was suggested as a solution to the lack of books, although there have been some issues with receiving subscriptions. There was some concern over inequalities of resources – in particular with Bookbug packs. It was noted that while the English and Gaelic packs both contain the same books, the other resources provided with the English books are not available for the Gaelic ones.

Suggestions from the committee to increase/improve Gaelic children's books included: asking children what they want to read (some kind of survey); children's book awards; reading challenges; short story writing competitions for children; touring libraries.

There was some concern over Gaelic books in local libraries being unused.

It was thought that a meeting would be needed with Comhairle nan Leabhraichean to explore some of these ideas.

8.2. *Aberdeen*

There is still concern over the lack of a high school teacher and the use of e-sgoil. If this continues next year there is a concern that pupils will drop out of Gaelic classes due to the lack of support in the class. Transitions not supported between primary and secondary schools. CnamP Aberdeen are looking to request additional support from the council.

8.3. *East Dunbartonshire*

The statutory process to increase catchment area has been started due to large numbers of early years and pre-school children. Currently the GM nursery and school catchment areas are not the same, with the nursery catchment area being bigger than the school catchment, meaning that not all children who attend the GM nursery are guaranteed a place in a GM class at primary.

8.4. *Nairn*

Following the meeting with Highland Council and the head-teacher at the academy, it is still unclear what the council plans to address staffing issues. There is a lack of communication between council and parents and no advertising of the position at Nairn academy.

8.5. *Oban*

CnP in Oban have been successful with their funding bid for a feasibility study for a Gaelic school.

9. Cuairt-litir & Làrach-lìn / Newsletter & Website

Contributions welcomed for the next newsletter. Please inform MW about any recent events in your area. Photographs welcome.

10. Aithisg Ionmhasair / Treasurer's Report

Accounts presented and approved by committee members.

11. GISBE /AOCB

11.1. *Glasgow*

Following a successful trip, CnamP Glaschu are hoping to run events during the summer with Scottish National Heritage – foraging workshops and other outdoor activities.

11.2. *Next meeting:* September 2nd, Premier Inn, Glasgow, 10 am.